

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending. By this amendment, Applicant proposes to amend independent claims 1, 14, and 26. These amendments respond to the decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences ("the Board") on September 14, 2007. The Board provided a new ground of rejection of claims 1-37 under § 102 based on U.S. Patent No. 5,995,991 to Huang et al. and under § 103 based on U.S. Patent No. 6,009,511 to Lynch et al.

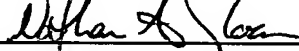
Applicant amends independent claims 1, 14, and 26 to "distinguish over the cited prior art" by requiring "a single resulting floating point operand that contains distinct parts which represent a value and encoded status information," as suggested by the Board. Decision on Appeal at 8, fn 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that this claimed invention, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art references cited against this application. Applicant therefore requests the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 13, 2007

By: 
Nathan A. Sloan
Reg. No. 56,249
(202) 408-4312